

Message Text

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60
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /077 W
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P R 221959Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 618
INFO USMISSION USUN NY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR UN KS KN VE
SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION VISITS VENEZUELA

REF: CARACAS 10864 AND 8352; STATE 249540

1. PRESS REPORTS THAT NIGHT OF OCTOBER 21 A NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION ARRIVED IN CARACAS COMPOSED OF AMBASSADOR GON JUI GIONG, COUNSELOR HONG SHI AND INTERPRETER KIM CHOL SOK. PRESS REPORT SPECULATES THAT NORTH KOREANS ARE SEEKING "DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS" WITH VENEZUELA, I.E., ESTABLISHMENT OF A NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS (NORTH KOREA AND VENEZUELA ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON OCTOBER 28, 1974).

2. SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY HERE TELLS US THAT GON IS THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW; THE OTHERS ARE FROM THE NORTH KOREAN UN OBSERVER MISSION. IT THINKS THEY HAVE COME TO LOBBY FOR VENEZUELAN SUPPORT FOR THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION ON KOREA AT THE CURRENT UNGA. SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE NORTH KOREANS ARRIVED WITHOUT MUCH ADVANCE WARNING, AND THAT THEIR PRESENCE SUGGESTS THAT NORTH KOREA IS WORRIED THAT THE GOV MAY VOTE AGAINST THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION. SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT THE NORTH KOREANS ARE MUCH CONCERNED RIGHT NOW WITH

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ESTABLISHING AN EMBASSY IN CARACAS.

3. WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH THE SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY AS TO ITS ANALYSIS OF WHAT PROMPTS THE NORTH KORENS' VISIT HERE. AMBASSADOR IS SEEING FOREIGN MINISTER ESCOVAR (WHO RETURNED TO VENEZUELA NIGHT OF OCTOBER 20) ON OCTOBER 23 IN ORDER TO DELIVER SECRETARY'S LETTER TO HIM ON KOREA. AT THAT TIME HE WILL ASK ESCOVAR ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION.

4. MEANTIME, FOREIGN MINISTRY'S ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY (MARTINEZ) CONFIRMED TO POL COUNSELOR OCTOBER 21 THAT THE HAD RELAYED OUR CONCERN OVER A POSSIBLE ALGERIAN MOVE TO GIVE VOTING PRIORITY TO THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION TO THE VENEZUELAN UN DELEGATION, TOGETHER WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO OPPOSE IT. MARTINEZ SAID GOV ATTITUDE TOWARD HOSTILE RESOLUTION IS UNCHANGED, I.E., GOV WILL SUPPORT THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION BUT THAT HE COULD NOT YET SAY WHETHER VENEZUELA WOULD VOTE FOR OR AGAINST THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION OR ABSTAIN.

SHLAUDEMAN

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